Air Transport Association ata OF AMERICA

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AIRLINE PASSENGER TRAFFIC UP 12 PERCENT IN DECEMBER AND 10 PERCENT IN 1986

WASHINGTON, D.C., January 16 -- U.S. scheduled airline passenger traffic, including domestic and international operations, increased 12.0 percent in December and 10.1 percent in 1986, the Air Transport Association reported today.

The passenger load factor, or percentage of seats filled, was 59.0 percent in December 1986, the same as December 1985. For the year overall, the 1986 passenger load factor was 60.6 percent compared to 61.4 for 1985.

Domestic air traffic in December 1986 was up 13.1 percent over December 1985, and for the year overall 13.2 percent. The domestic passenger load factor was 59.3 percent in December, compared to 59.2 for December 1985. For 1986, the domestic passenger load factor was 61.0 percent compared to 60.8 percent for 1985.

International air passenger traffic increased 6.9 percent in December over a year ago. For the full year 1986, international traffic declined 1.7 percent from 1985. The international passenger load factor was 57.7 percent in December 1986, the same as December 1985. For 1986, the passenger load factor was 58.9 percent compared to 64.2 for 1985.

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PRELIMINARY PASSENGER TRAFFIC STATISTICS
U.S. SCHEDULED AIRLINE INDUSTRY

DECEMBER 1986 - 1985

		DECEMBER			YEAR TO DATE		
	YEAR	RPM'S (000)	ASM'S (000)	LOAD FACTOR (%)	RPM'S (000)	ASM'S (000)	LOAD FACTOR (%)
DOMESTIC	86	23,558,495	39,760,077	59.3	272,191,014	446,150,975	61.0
	85	20,830,643	35,161,474	59.2	240,545,177	395,943,814	60.8
PERCENT CHANGE		13.1	13.1		13.2	12.7	
INTERNATIONAL	86	4,866,922	8,429,187	57.7	61,427,861	104,284,421	58.9
	85	4,553,306	7,884,514	57.7	62,496,329	97,279,209	64.2
PERCENT CHANGE		6.9	6.9		(1.7)	7.2	
TOTAL	86	28,425,417	48,189,264	59.0	333,618,875	550,435,396	60.6
	85	25,383,949	43,045,988	59.0	303,041,506	493,223,023	61.4
PERCENT CHANGE		12.0	11.9		10.1	11.6	

CARRIERS INCLUDED: AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL, DELTA, EASTERN, NORTHWEST, PAN AM, PIEDMONT, REPUBLIC, TRANS WORLD, UNITED, USAIR, WESTERN, AIRCAL, ALASKA, ALOHA, BRANIFF, HAWAIIAN, MIDWAY, OZARK AND PSA. FRONTIER INCLUDED FOR JAN-JUL 1986/1985.